TOKUSHIGE Appl. No. 10/635,645 Jånuary 28, 2005

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated October 29, 2004. Claims 1-15 are

pending.

The specification has been amended as suggested by the Examiner.

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 4, 5, 7, 8 and 9-

13 contain allowable subject matter. In this regard, subject matter of allowable claim 7 has been

added to claim 1, and allowable claims 4 and 5 have essentially been rewritten in independent

form. Claim 9 has been clarified with respect to the example Third Embodiment discussed in the

instant specification.

In view of the above, all claims are now in condition for allowance. If any minor matter

remains to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with regard to the

same.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE

Joseph A. Rhoa Reg. No. 37,515

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor

Arlington, VA 22201-4714

Telephone: (703) 816-4000

JAR:cai

Facsimile: (703) 816-4100

- 8 -